GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1329
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2002
ATTACHING PROPERTIES OF SMUGGLERS
B.K. PARTHASARATHI

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to attach the properties of people found in smuggling activities;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any action in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN)

(a), (b) & (c) The Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators (Forfeiture of Property) Act, 1976 (SAFEM(FOP) Act) provides fo forfeiture of illegally acquired property of the persons convicted under the Sea Customs Act, 1878, the Customs Act, 1962 and the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 as well as the persons detained under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974. The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (NDPS Act) provides for tracing, freezing, seizure and forfeiture of illegally acquired property of persons convicted under the Act or any corresponding law of any foreign country and those who are detained under the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988 and Jammu & Kashmir Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988.

Five Competent Authorities appointed under the SAFEM(FOP) Act and the NDPS Act, located at Kolkata, Chennai, Delhi, Lucknow and Mumbai, have been regularly carrying out forfeiture of such illegally acquired properties.